

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 06931 120600Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 IO-13 /054 W  
-----120611Z 043816 /16  
P R 120535Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7661  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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BRUSSELS FOR SENSER

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, JA, SN, ICFTU  
SUBJECT: AAFLI-ARO RELATIONSHIP

REF: TOKYO 5549 (NOTAL)

1. ON RETURN TO TOKYO FROM ARO EXECUTIVE MEETING, DOMEI INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR AIHARA GAVE LABATT FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF WHAT HE TERMED "LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS" OF ARO'S RELATIONS WITH OTHER "FRIENDLY ORGANIZATIONS," I.E., AAFLI AND FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION.

2. ICFTU EDUCATION DIRECTOR SILLEMANN OPPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ARO AND AAFLI BECAUSE USG'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR AAFLI MEANT IT WAS NOT PURE LABOR UNION ORGANIZATION. SOHYO REP ALSO SAID ARO SHOULD NOT HAVE TIES WITH FRIENDLY ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ARE NOT PLAIN UNION ORGANIZATIONS. ARO PRESIDENT DEVAN NAIR STRONGLY DEFENDED ARO'S HAVING RELATIONS WITH AAFLI ON GROUNDS THAT, DESPITE FINANCIAL AID FROM USG, AAFLI REMAINED, IN EFFECT, BRANCH OF AFL-CIO WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMPLETE CONTROL OVER ITS OWN PROGRAMS. TW/ARO PRESIDENT USAMI (JAPAN TEXTILE WORKERS) SAID TW/ARO PLANNING JOIN AAFLI FOR COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP AND SAID ARO SHOULD ENDORSE GENERAL IDEA OF SUCH INDIVIDUAL COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH AAFLI. INDONESIAN DELEGATE SUPPORTED HIM. ICFTU SEC GEN OTTO KERSTEN DEFENDED ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONSHIP

BETWEEN EBERT FOUNDATION AND ARO ON GROUNDS THAT, DESPITE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM FRG, FOUNDATION'S POLICIES WERE MADE INDEPENDENTLY BY DGB. AT CLOSE OF DISCUSSION, EXECUTIVE BOARD AUTHORIZED ITS NEWLY ESTABLISHED PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION BUREAU TO ENTER INTO CONTACTS WITH "FRIENDLY ORGANIZATIONS" TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF WORKING OUT COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS.

3. ALTHOUGH UNHAPPY WITH CRITICISMS FROM ICFTU AND ELSEWHERE, DOMEI SAYS IT SATISFIED WITH EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION BECAUSE IT FINALLY "OPENS WAY" FOR DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN ARO AND AAFLI. SINCE AIHARA INTENDS DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT IN WASHINGTON DURING FORTHCOMING AFL-CIO/DOMEI TALKS, SUGGEST ABOVE BE PASSED TO AAFLI/MORRIS PALADINO AND AFL-CIO/ERNIE LEE. SHOESMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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